Application No.: 09/918,394 Amendment Dated January 4, 2010 Reply to Office Action of September 1, 2009

REMARKS

This amendment is submitted along with a request for a one month extension and appropriate fees in reply to the Office Action dated September 1, 2009. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 31-34 include allowable subject matter. Claims 2-4, 7-11, 14, 15, 19-22 and 24-30 currently stand rejected. Applicant has amended independent claims 21, 24, 26, 28 and 30 for to incorporate allowable subject matter. No new matter has been added by the amendment. Claims 31-34 have been canceled by virtue of their incorporation into independent claims 21, 24, 26, 28 and 30.

In light of the amendment and the remarks presented below, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of all now-pending claims of the present application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

Claims 2-4, 7-11, 14, 15, 19-22 and 24-30 currently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over to Vanttila et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,794,142, hereinafter "Vanttila") in view of Hansson (U.S. Patent No. 6,023,620).

As indicated above, Applicants amended independent claims 21, 24, 28 and 30 to incorporate the allowable subject matter of respective ones of claims 31-34. Furthermore, the allowable subject matter from claim 32 was also added to independent claim 26 thereby making independent claim 26 patentable.

Claims 2-4, 7-11, 14, 15, 19, 20, 22, 25, 27 and 29 depend either directly or indirectly from respective ones of independent claims 21, 24, 26, 28 and 30, and thus include all the recitations of their respective independent claims. Therefore, dependent claims 2-4, 7-11, 14, 15, 19, 20, 22, 25, 27 and 29 are patentable for at least those reasons given above for independent claims 21, 24, 26, 28 and 30.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons provided above, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections of claims 2-4, 7-11, 14, 15, 19-22 and 24-30 are overcome and that the pending claims are patentable over Vantilla and Hansson, alone or in combination.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the amended claims and the remarks presented above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims of the present application are in condition for immediate allowance. It is therefore respectfully requested that a Notice of Allowance be issued. The Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney to resolve any remaining issues in order to expedite examination of the present application.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted.

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